OSS4Pres 2.0: Building Bridges and Filling Gaps

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ABSTRACT
In this paper, we describe the structure and contents for the OSS4Pres 2.0 workshop.

Keywords
open-source software, digital preservation, workflows, advocacy, software requirements.

1. SCOPE
Building on the success of the "Using Open-Source Tools to Fulfill Digital Preservation Requirements" workshop held at IPRES 2015, we propose a "oss4pres 2.0" workshop to further the ideas and themes generated. During the first oss4pres workshop, which was well attended and generated dynamic and engaging discussion amongst participants, digital preservation practitioners and open source software tool developers gathered to discuss the opportunities, challenges, and gaps related to developing open source systems and integrating them into institutional systems and workflows. By engaging in a series of focused activities designed to build upon our findings, at oss4pres 2.0 we seek to both move the conversation forward as well as produce actionable results that will directly benefit digital preservation practitioners.

Increased adoption and implementation of OSS tools within institutional digital preservation workflows has resulted in an increased set of knowledgeable practitioners who are seeking to move beyond simple testing and experimentation of tools. Digital preservation practitioners want to make informed tool selection decisions and participate in the process of developing solutions to better automate and integrate OSS tools. The oss4pres 2.0 workshop will provide a highly interactive forum for an audience of digital preservation practitioners, OSS tool developers, and institutional administrators to engage and collaborate to advance the continued development and implementation of OSS tools within the digital preservation community.

Workshop participants will gain:

Increased knowledge of the opportunities, challenges, and gaps related to the development and implementation of OSS in digital preservation workflows

Increased understanding of OSS implementation strategies and experiences at multiple institutions

Experience collaborating with fellow digital practitioners to develop practical solutions to address current OSS challenges and gaps

2. INTENDED CONTENT
The workshop structure and content will be designed to move quickly from idea generation and discussion to producing tangible outputs and will be composed of the following sessions:

1. Introduction and overview of topics

2. Participants will select from a set of proposed topics and form project groups

3. Each group will work through series of exercises specific to each topic following a basic sequence:

4. Discuss and define problem space for selected topic

5. Develop draft plans and/or solutions documents

6. Revise and finalize draft materials

7. Groups will come back together to report on activities and plan next steps

Potential Topics

Develop requirements for an online community space for sharing workflows, OSS tool integrations, and implementation experiences

Draft a one page advocacy guide for practitioners to utilize to communicate benefits and tradeoffs of OSS to administrative stakeholders

Develop functional requirements and/or features for OSS tools the community would like to see developed (e.g. tools that could be used during 'pre-ingest' stage)

Draft a design guide for FOSS tools aimed at ensuring they're designed to integrate easily with digital preservation institutional systems. Topics might include meeting common operational policy criteria regarding packaging, installation and security, preferred mechanisms for integration, e.g. command line wrapping, REST interfaces, programmatic APIs, or documentation issues.

3. ORGANIZERS
Sam Meister is the Preservation Communities Manager at the Educopia Institute, working with the MetaArchive Cooperative and BitCurator Consortium communities. Previously, he worked as Digital Archivist and Assistant Professor at the University of Montana. Sam holds a Master of Library and Information Science degree from San Jose State University and a B.A. in Visual Arts from the University of California San Diego. Sam is also an Instructor in the Library of Congress Digital Preservation Education and Outreach Program.

Shira Peltzman is the Digital Archivist at UCLA Library where she leads the development of their digital archives program. Previously she has worked with a number of cultural heritage organizations around the world including Martin Scorsese's World Cinema Foundation, the British Film Institute, the Bay Area TV Archive, and Carnegie Hall. Shira was a member of the National Digital Stewardship Program in New York's inaugural cohort and holds a Master's Degree in Moving Image Archiving and Preservation from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts.

Carl Wilson is the Technical Lead at the Open Preservation Foundation. An experienced software engineer with an emphasis on software quality through testing. Carl is an open source enthusiast, both as a user and developer. Carl oversees all of the Open Preservation Foundation's technical activities and is responsible for software quality on the veraPDF project, which is led by the Open Preservation Foundation in partnership with the PDF Association.

Heidi Dowding is the Digital Preservation Librarian at Indiana University, where she is currently focusing on infrastructure development and the creation of the Born Digital Preservation Lab. She is active in the development of national initiatives, including APTrust and Digital Preservation Network. Her previous positions include DiXiT Research Fellow at Huygens ING, Library of Congress National Digital Stewardship Resident at Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, and Reference and Digital Services Librarian at Nazarbayev University. She holds an MLIS from Wayne State University and BA from Michigan State University.